

SAMUEL "HAL" CONKEY

1899 - 1996

Samuel "Hal" Conkey, 97, lifelong resident of Lake Township, World War I veteran, retired schoolteacher and farmer, passed away Friday, Nov. 29 at Sunny Acres Nursing Center in Bad Axe.

He was born in 1899 in Canada to Samuel and Amanda (Hall) Conkey, while his mother was visiting there. He was raised on the family's Century Farm and attended schools in Finnebog and Bad Axe. Following his 1923 graduation from the University of Michigan, he returned to teach in both schools as well as a number of other Michigan schools throughout his career.

He was a lifelong member of the Chandler Presbyterian Church and the Huron County Farm Bureau. Always interested in local, state and national politics, he ran for the state legislature, but was not successful in his bid. He was also an inventor, creating an earlier version of the leaf harvester and he patented a number of items before that time. He was also a lover of literature and an artist by nature. Many of his artistic works were on display in Elkton and other communities, as well as in Florida, where he and his wife Christine wintered in Florida for over 30 years.

Mr. Conkey is survived by his wife, Christine; four children, Donald "Sam" (Joan) Conkey of Atlanta, GA, Jean (Norman) Tandy of Winchester, NH, Dr. Archie J. (Merene) Conkey of Grand Rapids and Carol (Dr. Albert) Plaush of Midland; 12 grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; 15 step-great-grandchildren and two step-great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a grandson and a great-grandson.

Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 11 a.m. at the Chandler Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Matthew Amason, pastor, will officiate with burial in the Chandler Township Cemetery.

Champaign Funeral Chapel, Elkton, was in charge of funeral arrangements.